

The lesser volume of work at the radio station following the cessation of hostilities enabled two seconded officers to be returned to New Zealand without replacement.

The radio out-stations situated at Aleipata, Tuasivi, Fagamalo, and Sala'ilua have continued to give moderate service. A new station was opened at Sataua, in Savai'i, during the year.

In May, 1945, an air-ground-air channel was opened from Apia Radio in connection with the New Zealand-Samoa air service. In December the aeradio station services were transferred to a station sited at Faleolo Airport. A radio-telegraph channel is maintained between Faleolo and Apia on flight days. All point-to-point aeradio traffic continues to be handled by Apia Radio.

Tests were commenced in January to investigate the possibility of a radio-telephone channel to New Zealand, but these tests have been delayed by unstable ionospheric conditions, while the close proximity of the transmitting and receiving aerials at Apia Radio will permit of only a restricted service until the position in this respect is improved.

An "air mail" rate of 5d. for each $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was introduced from the 1st January, 1946, in respect of letter-mail carried by the New Zealand-Samoa air service.

The reconstruction of the Apia telephone system was completed during the year.

The volume of business has been well maintained, and in most cases the following statistics of services performed show an increase:—

—				1944-45.	1945-46.
Value of money-orders issued	..	..	..	£3,545	£3,646
Value of money-orders paid	..	..	..	£10,892	£7,510
Post Office Savings-bank withdrawals	..	..	..	£66,513	£95,001
Post Office Savings-bank deposits	..	..	..	£114,393	£103,748
Number of depositors as at 31st March	..	..	..	4,078	4,382
Amount held to their credit	..	..	..	£251,207	£265,534
Number of Samoan depositors	..	..	..	3,055	3,311
Amount held to their credit	..	..	..	£30,563	£32,096
Number of radio messages	..	..	..	11,983	13,141
Net receipts therefrom	..	..	..	£3,684	£3,565

STAFF

Particulars given in the following table are as at 31st March of each year:—

Services.	Europeans.		Persons of part Samoan Blood.		Native Samoans.		Elective Samoan District and Village Officials.	
	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.	1945.	1946.
Classified departmental staffs—								
Education	9	11	15	17	240	218	..	..
Health	18	18	2	3	161	187	..	..
Native Affairs	3	4	1	1	14	16	244	262
Police and Prisons	7	7	3	2	60	57	..	..
Other services	34	31	39	35	33	34	..	..
	71	71	60	58	508	512	244	262
Casual employees	3	3	40	43	209	247	..	..
Totals	74	74	100	101	717	759	244	262